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new Bernal Journal

October/November '96

Serving the Bernal Heights Neighborhood of San Francisco

Volume 33 • Number 4

New Police Captain Shares Plans
for Bernal Heights

Ammiano, Corrales to Share Turf

by Leslie Wozniak

In an ironic twist of fate, two antagonists in the recent Cannabis Buyers' Club imbroglio will be sharing turf in Bernal Heights, where issues involving youth, crime, and drugs rank high as community concerns.

Captain Gregory Corrales, top cop in the narcotics division for three years, was transferred to Ingleside District (which includes Bernal Heights) a few days after his role in the controversial bust was revealed. The Cannabis Buyers' Club openly sold marijuana to people with terminal illnesses, but according to Corrales, "it was a fraud."

Supervisor Tom Ammiano, who failed in his attempt to declare a medical emergency in order to restore the availability of marijuana for medicinal use, is a long-time Bernal Heights resident.

How do the two size each other up?

"Obviously I wasn't consulted," quipped Ammiano. He did concede that Corrales deserves every opportunity to prove himself.

Corrales was more philosophical. "Politicians lock horns with people every day of the week. Tom and I will never agree on the selective prosecution of drug dealers. But there is not much dispute about suppressing crime in the neigh-

borhood or abating crime nuisances."

Bernal Heights has its share of terminally ill residents, many of whom suffer from cancer or AIDS. Would Corrales OK a bust if he discovered someone using pot to alleviate pain?

He responded, "It's not uncommon for officers in narcotics to get an anonymous tip and during the investigation of the circumstances, encounter someone with a terminal illness in possession of drugs. They (the officers) make a report, note the possession, but do not jail the person in the room. Happens all the time."

He distinguished the hypothetical situation from the CBC bust. "In the CBC investigation, it was determined to be a fraud. I took action against a drug dealer."

Corrales admitted that when he started the investigation, he anticipated a transfer. "It's a given that San Francisco is a political city," he said. "If I had my choice, I would have liked to stay at narcotics. That said, I'm delighted to be at Ingleside. It's a busy district."

Corrales' impression of Bernal Heights is that it is rapidly becoming a desirable place to live. Although he couldn't quote statistics, he had a "gut feeling" that crime had decreased due to neighbors fixing up their houses and taking pride in the neighborhood.

fiesta '96



The "acidlatinfunk" sounds of Los Angelitos, one of the headlining bands of Fiesta '96, will be heard on Cortland Avenue this October 19th. See story on page 10

His lack of experience in working with youth may trouble some residents. "I haven't dealt with juveniles too much except to arrest them," he said. "I would like to see young people at a crossroads in their lives make the right choice, but for some it's too late. He added, "I will protect the community from young predators."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Lucky's Charms or Harms?

by Mike Weitalla

Food chain sets sights on key Bernal location.

Lucky Food Center may be close to acquiring the two lots it needs to build an all-service store on the southeast corner of Mission Street and Cesar Chavez Street. The store, almost twice as big as the existing Safeway a few blocks south on Mission, would

offer groceries, pharmaceuticals and every service short of dog-washing. But not everybody believes a Lucky in the neighborhood brings good fortune.

For one, the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation has been working toward bringing affordable housing to that very site for some eight years. In fact, the Planning Department had ear-marked the site for affordable housing before Lucky entered the picture.

Other detractors fear increased traffic problems created by a store that hopes to lure at least 20,000

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

ARTISTS SHOW THEIR STUFF



Meet Bernal
artist James
Gleeson at
his studio,
during San
Francisco
Open
Studios. For
complete
listings of
all Bernal
Artists, see
page 14

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The *New Bernal Journal* is a bi-monthly neighborhood newspaper sponsored by the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center. It is dedicated to providing the people of Bernal Heights with community news, ideas, issues, and events that support the Center's mission: "To empower people in efforts to preserve the ethnic, cultural, and economic diversity of Bernal Heights and improve the economic condition of low and moderate income people in Bernal Heights." The *New Bernal Journal* is distributed door to door, free in Bernal Heights. Articles express the views of contributors and not necessarily those of the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center.

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'POLICE PLANS' FROM PAGE 1

Corrales confirmed that he would call Mauricio Vela, Director of the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center, to work out "hot spots" in advance of taking major police action.

"I don't think anyone can spend any time with him (Vela) without getting enthusiastic about what he's doing for the neighborhood."

Ammiano's enthusiasm for Corrales, however, remains in check.

"The ball is in his court," he said. "The question is, can he overcome his baggage and work with people in the neighborhood?"

Asked if he personally could work with Corrales, Ammiano couldn't resist needling.

"We'll give it a shot—no pun intended."

'LUCKY'S' FROM PAGE 1

customers a week. Small businesses will face stiff competition that coincides with the introduction of a mega-store. Increased liquor sales may also create friction in a community that has already moved to stem the proliferation of liquor licenses.

Both the Northwest Bernal Alliance and the Precita Valley Neighbors are closely monitoring the Planning Department's study of the impact of the proposed development and will be involved in hearings that could determine Lucky's fate.

Community Police on Patrol — Going, Going, Gone?

by Leslie Wozniak

Ingleside's new police captain, Gregory Corrales, stated that the San Francisco police department's official policy is to move away from specific officers being known as Community Police On Patrol (CPOPs). Theoretically, this will designate all officers as working within a community policing policy.

But what about Bernal's individual CPOPs? Does the new policy mean they will disappear?

Corrales stated that the cops formerly known as CPOPs will continue to walk their beats—all they will lose is their titles. Residents hope they will maintain their role in keeping the neighborhood safe.

"The park used to be full of drug dealers." Bernal resident Oliver Sauneuf motioned in the direction of Holly Park. "And the library used to be their hang out."

"Now it's nice and clean," added Julie Riddell. "The police took care of it."

"It was wild on Cortland until we got community policing expanded to Bernal," said

Mauricio Vela, Director of Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center. Vela has made it his business to know "what's hot and what's not" in Bernal. He rattled off a list of crime issues that CPOPs have addressed in the neighborhood: street dealing, drinking in parks, abandoned cars, merchant safety, crime at Holly Courts, and disputes between neighbors and youth.

The Neighborhood Center is a member of a coalition that is designing a public safety program to work with seven neighborhood police stations, including Ingleside. Neighborhoods in Transition—A Multicultural Partnership (NIT-AMP) will assign crime prevention specialists to every neighborhood in the city to help reduce crime.

"Having a police presence has been a deterrent to crime," Vela observed. "But we (members of NIT-AMP) must be the eyes and ears of the community. "When people know each other, there's built-in safety."

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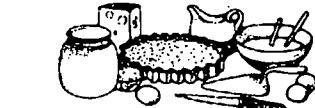
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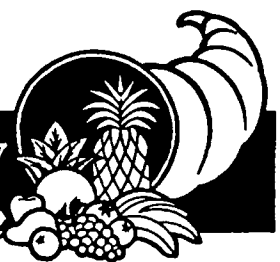


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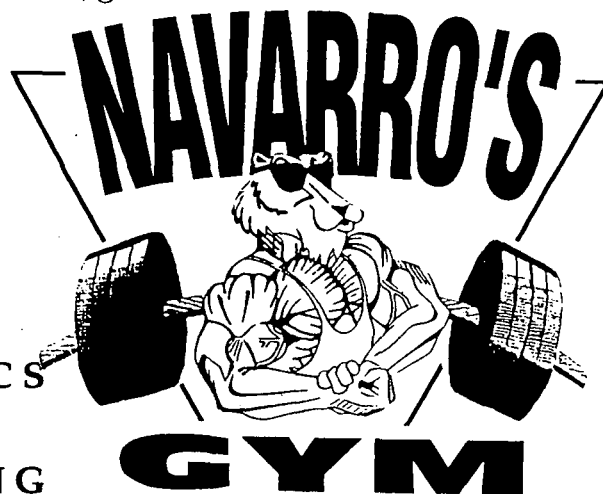
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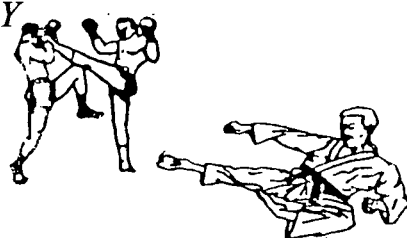
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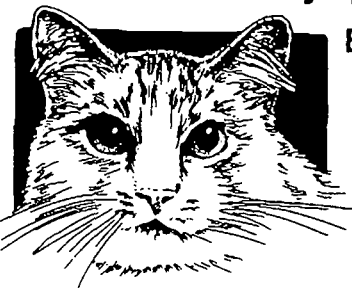
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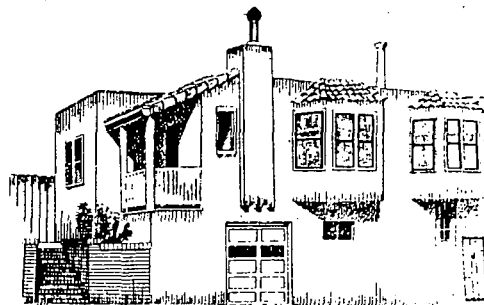
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Bernal Heights Housing Corporation News

Housing Corporation Snags Significant Award

A check from the Office of Housing and Urban Development in Washington D.C. for nearly \$850,000 was recently awarded to a collaborative that includes the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation to purchase a building and provide much needed services to HIV positive women and their children who live in San Francisco.

The award is significant because it will help create one of the few places available for a population that has received little attention and few services during the AIDS epidemic.

Ruthy Talansky, Housing Project Developer at BHHC, convened the collaborative and found the housing site which will be up and running in seven months. "I was frustrated that the needs of women and chil-

dren were not focused on," she explained, as her impetus for working on the project. Generally, the hospice milieu has been geared toward gay men."

Besides being low-income and having an HIV diagnosis, women will be "multiply diagnosed," meaning they will be previously homeless and in recovery from drugs or alcohol or suffering from mental health problems.

The Bernal Heights Housing Corporation is the Housing Developer for the project, and will be working in tangent with three service providers—Catholic Charities, Legal Services for Children/The Hope Project, and the Edgewood Family Center. The Women's Health Advisory Committee will advise the collaborative.

Cars Race On Precita As Residents Organize on Tiffany

by Bill Shields

More than two thousand cars a day race down Precita Avenue on the north side of the hill, making a freeway out of a narrow residential street. Much of this speeding traffic is from outside the neighborhood. It threatens our children, dirties our air and too often results in damage to parked cars and homes.

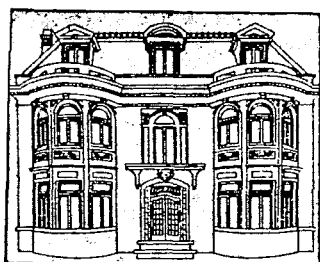
This problem started years ago when the city took away the left turn lane heading west on Chavez at Mission. This forced a high volume of traffic onto Precita, looking for that easy left onto Mission. Later, neighbors convinced the city to spend a hundred thousand dollars to put a left turn lane onto Chavez at Valencia. Unfortunately, this hardly cut traffic at

all.

Recently, however, a successful campaign by Tiffany Street neighbors and the Northwest Bernal Block Club resulted in a commitment from the city for a six month trial with a full traffic barrier. This will limit Tiffany to local access. Such barriers are frequently used to calm traffic in the Bay Area, especially in Berkeley and Oakland.

Encouraged by the Tiffany example, Precita neighbors have begun organizing again. In a recent series of neighborhood meetings, neighbors have voted overwhelmingly to ask the city for a similar barrier on Precita between Shotwell and Mission. This will help the entire neighborhood by directing through traffic back onto Chavez. This is of particular interest to neighbors due to the threat of increased traffic from the proposed Lucky's mega-store at Chavez and Mission.

For more information or to get involved in this project, watch for announcements of upcoming meetings of the Precita Valley Neighbors and the Northwest Bernal Block Club.



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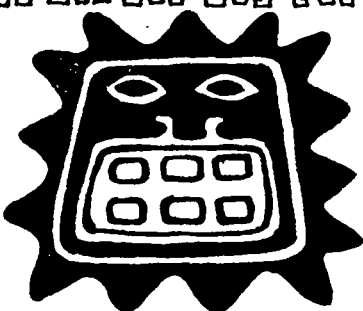
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Down in the Dirt

Confessions of a Professional Gardener
by Garry Bernhardt

Facts of Life on the Hill,
Part II

A very real consideration in gardening on Bernal Hill is the smallness of our yards. Lots here are only 75 feet deep, as opposed to 100 feet almost everywhere else in town. Allegedly this occurred after the quake and fire of 1906 when the city decided to provide cheaper parcels for the working class.

So how does this affect us? Basically, it means every inch of space is precious. Unfortunately, we gardeners tend to be greedy land hogs who want to grow one of everything, or at least that fabulous new rose introduced this year. So now where do we put the deck and the barbie and the hot tub without crowding out the tomatoes?

Either you have to plan awfully well or be ruthless in culling out the old or cut everything back or give up growing certain things. A really dedicated plant nut can always find a space to cram one more favorite in—unless it's something like a baobab tree—but some forethought can make your life a lot easier.

This means sitting down and

thinking about what you most want from your garden. Alas, there are lots of choices: privacy, herbs and veggies, a spot to sunbathe, room for the kids to play or the dog to run, flowers for cutting or fragrance, shade on hot days, wind protection, entertaining, a fruit tree or two, storage, a pond, a beautiful retreat, a view from a major window, terraces, a compost heap, etc.

After you figure out what you want, the harder part is to figure out a pleasing and clever way to cram it all in. Literally, it's back to the drawing board. Play with your ideas, both in the garden using hoses or rope to delineate areas, and inside on pencil and paper. How many zucchini plants do you need? Is privacy from neighbors important enough to cut out a lot of the light? With our houses jammed so closely together, it's pretty hard to pretend you're living in Marin.

Basically, you want to exploit your land to the max. One way to do this is planting in layers or stories. Shade tolerant shrubs can be planted under the openly pruned fruit tree, with strawberries as a ground cover on the sunnier side. Another good trick is espaliering plants, that is, training them to grow flat, on your walls and fences. Many fruit trees do especially well in this manner, since they love all the sun and heat they can get.

Another good trick is careful plant selection. Many plants come

in small or even miniature forms. A good example is fruit trees which are available as *standard*, *semi-*



dwarf (10–12' high), or *dwarf* (5–8' high). Unless you're canning, a dwarf might be all you need. If it's flowers you crave, there are some that seem to flower more or less forever: bougainvilleas, Solanum rantonettii, marguerites and Europs daisies, Mexican bush sage, flowering maples (Abutilon), Lavatera, the blue hibiscus (Alyogyne), princess flower, lantanas, felicia, geraniums, and many roses.

And finally, as my dear therapist

used to say, remember they don't lock you in Montana and throw away the key. You can always change your mind. Gardening has been called the slowest moving of the fine arts, but like any masterpiece, you need to play with and fine tune it. Have fun!

A Bernal Heights garden club has been suggested. Monthly get-togethers, visiting each other's gardens, talking, and trading plants are possibilities. Sound good? If you're interested, give Eugenie a call at 826-0236.

I have to confess I'm a real ignoramus when it comes to vegetable gardening and I humbly solicit tales of your experiences, both good and bad, and names of varieties especially. Get your name in print and help out your neighbors! Please write c/o the *New Bernal Journal*.

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Mayor Brokers Deal for Affordable Housing

by Holly Kernan

Proposition A, a five-year, one hundred million dollar bond measure to expand affordable housing opportunities for low and moderate-income residents of San Francisco, received some behind-the-scenes support from Mayor Willie Brown.

Under Prop A, eighty five million dollars would be used to rehabilitate and construct rental units and fifteen million would go for assistance loans to first-time home buyers.

According to the San Francisco Chronicle's Matier and Ross, in order to ensure that landlord associations wouldn't campaign against Prop A, Mayor Brown worked out a deal with San Francisco landlords which would allow them to pass the costs of the municipal bonds on to their tenants.

Brown press spokesman, P.J. Johnston called the Matier and Ross report overblown: "The Mayor has lobbied the whole city on the need for affordable housing and on this bond. He convinced landlords that

a one percent vacancy rate isn't good for the city in the long run. He sat down with landlords and convinced them it's just good public policy for the city. This particular measure is a city-wide bond measure so the financial burden isn't placed on any one group—and it has the potential for matching funds from the Federal government, the Office of Housing and Urban Development and the AFL-CIO."

Support for Prop A ranges from the Mayor to the Council of Community Housing Organizations to the San Francisco Chamber of

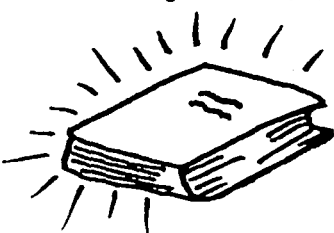
Commerce and the San Francisco Apartment Association.

Although there is little vocal opposition to the bond measure, it does face one hurdle. To pass, it must receive a two thirds majority vote.

"The challenge is to get the word out about the bond and to get people out to vote in November because this is a top priority for San Francisco," said Helen Helfer, executive director of the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation, which is a member of the Council of Community Housing Organizations.

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Around the Neighborhood

With Gloria Allen

Walking Down The Avenue

On a brilliant September Friday afternoon, I sat and drank tea with David Rogers, President of the Cortland Merchants Association, Vice President of the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Association and craftsman/owner of **Hand Made Shoes**. David reminded me of the old-fashioned town crier who goes up and down the street delivering and hearing "the news." He said, "I like being part of a community life which is ameliorating. This is a sleepy little burg with parking!" So I asked him, "What's new?"

We sipped and chatted at **Progressive Grounds**, which quietly opened a few weeks ago in the classic green ceramic art studio formerly owned by Michael Zanfagna. This property passed from one Bernal Heights family to another. Anna and Anthony Shami, the new owners, agreed to retain the architectural integrity while providing a community center for neighbors to meet or simply relax in the well-recycled rooms or the back patio, where they can enjoy a book and a beverage, pastry or lunch. David commented that it was one of several positive changes with the potential to evolve into a Bernal Heights social scene.

We chatted about the changes on Cortland Avenue and Bernal

Heights which David characterized as a "Bohemian neighborhood safe for families." Since arriving five years ago, David has seen many improvements. Today, there are lots of families and children in strollers on the street as new and interesting businesses open to join the original core represented by **Nicco's**, **Good Life**, **Heartfelt**, **Teodosia** and **Hungarian Sausage Factory**. By the way, a jazz duo with piano and bass plays 30s to 50s music every Friday night at the Sausage Factory.

Kathy Dunphy of **Heartfelt** is using **Dogtown** as a working artist's studio. **Hair by Jean**, specializing in hair design and color has opened on the corner of Bocana. **Bernal Books**, a community bookstore, has been joined by **Living Pieces**, one-of-a-kind collectibles, antiques and furniture. The Arrow Pharmacy space is now available. **SF Pet & Aquatics**, possibly the oldest business on Cortland, is continuing under the direction of Jerome Hawkins, Jim and Dorothy Chisholm's godson.

Goodwin, of **Rag & Bone**, which sells a bit of everything, is expanding into the space formerly occupied by Twist. More changes include **Artesanias Mexicanas** featuring handicrafts from Mexico and **La Familia Restaurant**, with reasonably priced Nicaraguan, Mexican and Salvadorian food.

Even the physical environment is changing. About four months ago, the San Francisco Department of Public Works planted almost 140 trees along Cortland which it continues to maintain.

Cortland Merchants Association will again sponsor Halloween Trick or Treat on Thursday, October 31st on Cortland Avenue. This Halloween, these generous merchants and businesses will remain open until 9pm to entertain all ghosts and goblins as they make their rounds. Shops will be decorated and well lit so as to make the street safe and welcome to children of all ages.

The Cortland Merchants Association meets the second Monday each month at one of several cafes—The Barking Basset, Liberty Cafe, Deli-Pub, Hungarian Sausage Factory or Progressive Grounds. Bernal Heights neighbors are welcome to attend by simply calling David at 826-5089 for the next time and location.

For a complimentary directory of the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Merchants on Cortland Avenue, call David or you can reach Gloria at 441-0656 ext. 227.

Bernal Residents Grill Supervisor Candidates

by Demece Garepis

Displaced tenants, local Bernal Heights environmentalists, small business owners, single mothers and homeowners packed St. Kevin's Church on Thursday, September 12, demanding tough, direct answers from candidates running for Supervisor in the November elections.

The Supervisorial Forum was sponsored by a coalition of Bernal groups, including St. Kevin's Church, the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center and Housing Corporation, St. Anthony's Church, the Northwest Bernal Block Club, Precita Valley Neighbors, East Slope Design Review Board, the Coalition for Better Waste Water Solutions and the Bernal Heights Democratic Club.

Incumbent supervisors Sue Bierman, Barbara Kaufman, Leslie Katz and Michael Yaki joined challengers Jose Medina, Leland Yee and Caroline Marks in addressing a range of issues from the local crowd.

San Francisco voters will be challenged to choose between candi-

dates who agree on many of the critical issues posed to them by Bernal residents. All candidates oppose the Cross Town Tunnel, the proposed Lucky's superstore on Chavez and Mission and the issuance of new liquor licenses on Mission between Chavez and Geneva. Bierman, Medina and Marquez promised to propose a downtown transit tax to offset cuts in benefits for welfare mothers. The cuts are expected as a result of the Welfare Reform Act, recently passed into law by the federal government.

The candidates responded to questions about economic revitalization by suggesting an array of possible directions. Katz and Yaki see a growth market in the San Francisco multimedia industry and suggested creating youth jobs in that field. Kaufman, citing her work in Charter Reform, supports independent fiscal analysis of city contracts. Caroline Marks proposed funding more community services to create a healthy San Francisco.

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Cal Trans To Move Slowly on East Slope Maintenance

Cal Trans learned a lesson from East Slope residents recently: before carrying out maintenance work, inform the neighbors.

"We caught hell," said Maintenance Supervisor Steven Tyler. "Before anything drastic happens, we'll let people know from now on."

He was referring to a "clean up" on the east end between Chavez Street and Highway 101. The last few winters, movement in the hillside caused debris to slide onto the highway. To alleviate the problem, Cal Trans brought San Quentin inmates over to the East Slope to remove scotchbroom and other debris. Unfortunately, a few of the plants that got the heave-ho belonged to residents.

Resident Debby Zito expressed a concern about a group of pine trees that Cal Trans was eyeing for removal. Tyler stated, "It's farfetched that that would happen." However, he did agree to notify residents through the *New Bernal Journal* of any future plans for the slope.

If you have any concerns about Cal Trans maintenance work, please contact Michael Marcum at 415-330-6536.

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Assemblywoman Carole Migden is looking for volunteers and interns to assist in her San Francisco office. Duties include working on constituent cases, interacting with state departments, answering phones and other general office tasks, and attending community events on the Assemblywoman's behalf. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about public policy, San Francisco and state government. Contact Bob Hartnagel at 415/557-0784.

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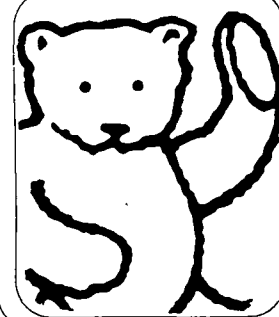
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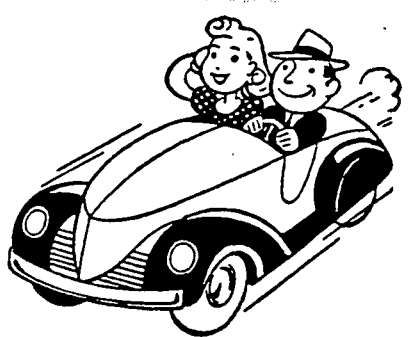
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Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center News

Cortland will Quake with Latin Rock

Fiesta Hits on Earthquake Preparedness Day

by Suzy Drell

Neighbors may feel the earth shake this month but they won't need to run for their earthquake preparedness kits. On Saturday, October 19, the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center presents the 8th annual *Fiesta On The Hill* from 10am to 6pm. Up to 10,000 revelers are expected on Cortland Avenue between Bennington and Ellsworth to partake of food, crafts and music on a street known more for its quiet ambiance than as the locale for a full-scale street fair. Fiesta Coordinator Suzy Drell believes the street will come alive with two music stages featuring headliners *Los Angelitos* and the *Mo'fessionals*, as well as non-stop local performances. Bernal Playground will be transformed into a kids' activity center from 10am to 3pm. Many of the shops and cafes along revitalized Cortland Avenue will be open to explore and enjoy.

Fiesta Relies on Volunteers

Fiesta is a neighborhood production made possible with the support of local residents volunteering their time and talents to make the event a reality. Mary Kay Mitchell, long time resident of Bernal Heights and graphic designer for the San Francisco Newspaper Agency, created this year's *Fiesta* logo, poster and tee shirt design. Mary Ann Walowic, local artisan and vendor, has taken on the coordination of all the vendor booths. Tom Fowler, illustrator and member of *The Blackouts*, is producing the Program Book. Dennis Juarez, a new-comer to the neighborhood and house manager at *Slim's*, is helping coordinate all the talent and production for the music stages. Other volunteer committee chairs include Children's Area coordinators Carole and Richard Bee, Poster Distribution coordinator Desu Sorro and Volunteer coordinator Martha Stein. The staff and board of the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center have also support to bring *Fiesta* to fruition. Coordinator Suzy Drell is still seeking volunteers willing to donate time, talent and energy at *Fiesta*. She may be reached at 206-2140.



The Mo'fessionals toss together funk, a big, brassy horn section, and two-man percussion for that World Beat sound.

Performances By Some of San Francisco's Hottest Acts

Non-stop, not-to-be-missed music performances run the gamut from Latin to blues to funk to rock and pop. Headliners include *Los Angelitos*, a big house-rocking sound that fans have labeled "acidlatinfunk" and the *Mo'fessionals*, a band that BAM Magazine describes as "a big bang where funk, hip-hop, and rock

Soul Divine



Bernal Band will be featured

meet, marry and settle down". Dr. Loco & Los Lonestars, Red Archibald & The Internationals, Soul Divine, Pamela Martin, Farm Cat and The Blackouts complete the line-up. Also included will be a variety of ethnic dance groups, martial arts exhibitions and much, much more.

Children-Youth-Adults-Seniors—Something For Everyone
Children's

activities from 10am - 3pm will be provided by the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, the Bernal Heights Library, BHNC staff and neighborhood volunteers. Arts & crafts, face painting, hat making, pumpkin painting and basketball are featured activities. Games, prizes and the Recreation and Park Department's Playmobile will also be part of the entertainment.

The Youth Services Program of BHNC is hosting basketball contests for ages 21 and under at Bernal Playground from 1pm to 4pm.

BHNC's Senior Services will offer Bingo in the Center's dining room and a gaming booth on Cortland in front of the Center.

Culinary Delights

And don't forget food! Tantalizing aromas from a variety of cuisines will tempt the appetite, so come prepared to treat yourself to some really fabulous culinary delights. Cortland Avenue cafes will also be open to fair-goers.

Fiesta Volunteers Wanted!

Volunteer to make *Fiesta* happen and you'll receive a free, fabulous, colorful *Fiesta On The Hill '96* tee-shirt designed by Bernal's own Mary Kay Mitchell. We're looking for neighbors and friends to help with children's, youth and seniors' activities; set-up and strike; poster and production. Sign up today for a work shift - call BHNC at 206-2140 or drop by the Center. It's big fun! Come help us make *Fiesta* a success!

Corporate Sponsorship the Best Ever

This year's sponsors include Bank of America, Bernal Heights Housing Corporation, The Community Arts & Education Program of the San Francisco Art Commission, Farmers Insurance Group, Neighborhoods In Transition, Pacific Gas & Electric, and San Francisco Recreation & Park Department.

Make Fiesta On

The Hill '96 Work for Your Business!

Bring your business to *Fiesta* by renting booth or table space or by placing an ad in the Program Book. The Book is distributed at the fair and five hundred copies are mailed to BHNC members and funders.

Ad rates start as low as \$25 and for a mere \$350 you can purchase a full page (8 1/2 X 11) ad! Call 206-2140 or mail in the coupon below to reserve your ad today! Contact AD Book Coordinator Stella Egar or Fiesta Coordinator Suzy Drell for details.

The Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center
PRESENTS

Fiesta

On the Hill '96

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Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center News

Local Youth Attack Summer Job Market

by Ian Fraser

Dispelling the myth that our youth are rotting their brains on Nintendo and wandering aimlessly in malls, dozens of local youngsters turned their summers into lucrative and informative job experiences.

The Youth Employment Program of the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center helped place young workers in a wide variety of jobs and internships throughout the neighborhood and city.

Several local employers including Smart & Final, Whole Earth Access, MacFrugal's, Isa's Hair Salon, and Good Life Grocery showed their support for youth employment by granting interviews and hiring qualified candidates. They were able to see beyond youth stereotypes of gangbanging, thieving, and oversleeping underachievers.

High school students and recent graduates, contemplating a summer of boredom and television, found positions as administrative assistants, retail clerks, junior nurses, designers, and child care providers. One even became an entrepreneurial dog walker.

Leslee Rockett, a Balboa High



Angie Munoz (center) now works as a cashier at Whole Earth Access on Bayshore Avenue. Pictured with her are supervisors Jamie Myrold and John Starcovich.

School junior who secured a paid internship constructing floor models for Williams-Sonoma, gained indispensable marketing experience. "I learned a lot about what it really takes to sell stuff!" she said.

In addition to bringing home the proverbial bacon, the youth learned valuable skills which will help them assault that often-slippery ladder of professional success. Although a young person may have an incredible desire to get a job, they may have limited interviewing and communication skills. Such candidates are encouraged to attend job readiness workshops, where they can learn what it takes to compete successfully in the job market.

"Nothing can replace the valuable skills young people learn at school," states Joy Ferguson, Youth Services Director at BHNC. "But having solid work references eases the fears that many employers have when it comes to hiring youth."

With the able help of Father Purcell, Susan Cervantes of PRECITA EYES looks happy about the mural wall they and other volunteers painted at the Farmer's Market / Market Heights. If you haven't seen the finished product, drop by the Market and enjoy the beautiful artwork.

It Takes A Village To Make People Laugh

A full house greeted P.M.S., Rex Navarette, Annie Larson, and the San Francisco Fringe Riders at the second Comedy Cabaret held at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center July 27. Advertised as the "gayest neighborhood event," the fundraiser was produced by volunteers, attended by residents, and supported by neighborhood merchants. BHNC wishes to thank the following for donations of auction prizes and refreshments at the gala:

August Moon (at Isa's)
Barking Basset Restaurant
Berkeley Repertory Theatre
Bernal Books
Cafe Abo
Chloe's Cafe
Cole Hardware
Floorcraft Garden Supplies
Floorcraft Tile
Good Life Grocery
Isa's Salon
Jinjee Flowers
Josef Schmit Chocolates
Just Desserts
Liberty Cafe
Nicco's Cafe
Park Bench Cafe
Pastels Salon
Panos Restaurant
Pizza Express

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Fiesta on the Hill '96

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☐ I want to reserve AD SPACE IN PROGRAM BOOK.

Please call me for ad placement.

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Please call me!

☐ I want to SPONSOR *Fiesta '96* and by doing so support the wonderful work of the BHNC. Please acknowledge me as a contribution the Program Book and the New Bernal Journal.
Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution of \$_____

☐ I'd like to VOLUNTEER for *Fiesta '96*. Please call me!

(Name)

(Address)

(Hm Phone)(Best time to Call)

(Wk Phone (Best Time To Call)

Mail to *Fiesta '96* @ BHNC,
515 Cortland Ave, SF CA 94110
Phone: 206-2140 Fax: 648-0793

HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

For over seventeen years the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center and Housing Corporation have been providing vital services to families of Bernal Heights:

All members and Friends will be acknowledged in the New Bernal Journal, and will receive our bi-monthly newsletter Memo to Members, which lists community events and program updates. Members & Friends are eligible to vote for the BHNC Board of Directors at the Annual Bernal Heights Community Congress on Sat. March 9th.

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ Apt. # _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Date _____ Race/ethnicity (optional) _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES:
() Regular \$15 () Family \$25 () Senior or Low income \$5
() Youth \$1 () Business \$50 () Supporter \$50 () Friend \$100

Bernal Hilltop Natural History California Bee Plant

What's in a name?

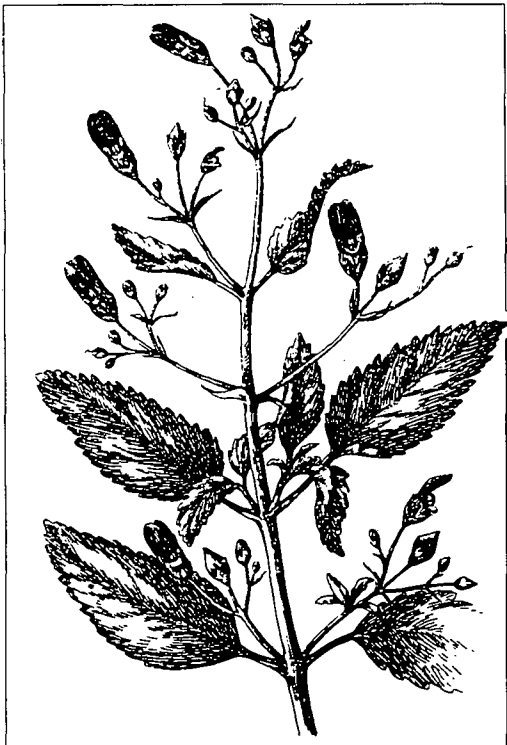
by Barbara M. Pitschel

Scrophularia californica, known as California bee-plant or figwort is not a rare or uncommon native plant. It is so plentiful and plebeian in some areas that people are even apt to consider it weedy. But remember that such plants are our allies because they aid in the reclamation of natural areas like Bernal by offering strong competition against invasive European weeds. Bee plant grows from widely branching and rapidly spreading rootstocks and is luxuriant in disturbed soils.

Although *scrophularia* is the genus for which the Scrophulariaceae is named, it is one of the least showy of the genera in this figwort family, which includes such well known wildflowers and garden plants as monkey flowers, penstemons, Indian paintbrushes, owls' clovers, Indian warriors, Chinese houses, veronicas, and snapdragons.

California bee plant is a perennial herb which grows anywhere from two to six feet tall. Winter-dormant plants produce purplish-red new leaves and shoots in the spring. Large, toothed, broadly triangular opposite leaves, two to four inches long, grow on stout square stems. This hand-

some pattern of mature foliage is actually more striking than the small, maroon flowers, which are only a half inch long and grow in loose, open panicles. The flowers are bilateral, or irregularly shaped,



with two-lipped corollas at the ends of roundish flower tubes. The upper lip, which projects forward, has two lobes, plus two smaller lobes at the sides; the single-lobed lower lip bends downward. Four fertile stamens grow in pairs, and a fifth rudimentary scale-like sta-

men produces no pollen. Two of the stamens project just over the lower rim of the corolla in a manner that author Mary Elizabeth Parsons has described as "like the front teeth of some tiny rodent." The ovary is two-celled, with an inconspicuous nectar gland at its base.

At first glance you could easily mistake this plant for a member of the mint family as you look at its square stems and opposite leaves. However, people with botanical knowledge can distinguish the two families by the nature of their fruits, and anyone can rub the leaves and note that bee plant lacks the fragrance of mint oils.

California bee plant has a long blooming season, often extending from February to August. As might be expected, it is easy to grow in the garden, tolerating exposures from full sun to light shade. It likes occasional summer water and can become somewhat invasive, but it is not too difficult to control. It is easily propagated by division. Plants from local seed will be among the many San Francisco species available at the plant sale of the Yerba Buena Chapter of the California Native Plant Society on October 23.

The Latin name is derived from *scrofulae*, which refers to the plants' medical properties. The genus was once thought to

be a remedy for scrofula, a constitutional disorder characterized by swelling of the lymph glands, particularly in the neck, and by inflammation of the joints. The name "figwort" also has medical origins. It is derived from the medieval use of some European species to treat "fig," an early name for hemorrhoids. "Wort" is the Old English word for plant. As the common name "bee plant" implies, the species is attractive to bees. The little corollas are generally abundantly stocked with nectar, so the plants are often cultivated by beekeepers.

The original type specimen of *scrophularia californica* was collected, probably in the Presidio, by Chamisso on the first Kotzebue Expedition in 1816. Plants of this species grow in a wide variety of habitats and plant communities. They are common in moist areas on coastal scrub, chaparral, brushy slopes, woody areas, and roadsides below 5000 feet throughout much of California, northward west of the Cascades to British Columbia, and eastward in Arizona and Nevada. In San Francisco, it has been reported in the past from Lobos Creek, Bakers Beach, Lands End, Lone Mountain, Golden Gate Park, Sunset District dunes, Lake Merced, Laguna Honda, Mt. Davidson, San Miguel Hills, Russian Hill, Hunters Point (on serpentine), and on the north slope of Bayview Hill. On Bernal, it grows naturally on the north slope, and we have reintroduced it into the restoration test plot on the southeast corner of the hilltop.

If you would like to know more about restoration work parties on the third Sunday of each month, or if you would like information on the October 23 plant sale of SF natives, you may contact me at 282-5066.

More Neighborhood Center News

Volunteers Recognized

51 volunteers attended our 1996 Volunteer Recognition Dinner and Cabaret. It was a glamorous affair with white tablecloths, wine and belly dancers. As part of the entertainment volunteers and staff provided a talent show of songs, 'improv' theater and poetry. The delicious roast beef dinner was prepared by long time volunteers Oliver Sauneuf and Julia Riddell. A lively time was had by all.

Over 100 volunteers work in the Senior Services. If you are interested in volunteering with elders in the Bernal Heights community please call Pat Lindstadt at 206-9177

We'd like to thank our generous donors who helped us bring some sparkle to the event:

Carmen Mendieta
Ann Bednarzick
Mitchell's Icecream
Oliver Sauneuf and Julia Riddell
Millie Rodrigues
Just For Fun scribbledoodles
Keven Clancy
Vernon Tarriel
Nikko's Cafe
Alice Gilbeaux
Walgreen's at 30th / Mission
Julio Rivera
Students of Fat Chance Belly Dance
Bouquets des Fleurs

UCSF

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invites you to a:*

**PUBLIC HEARING on the
Recirculation of Program Revisions
to the 1996 LRDP Draft EIR
(Environmental Impact Report)**

**Thursday, October 24, 1996
7:00 PM**

**UCSF Laurel Heights Auditorium
3333 California Street at Presidio
Sub-level 1**



Parking: Free Parking at the Laurel Heights parking lot
Transit: MUNI 1, 3, 4 and 43 buses stop at California and Presidio



We are recirculating the portions of the Draft EIR
which contain new information on the:

- ❖ Proposed Stanford Merger
- ❖ California Pacific Medical Group Affiliation
- ❖ Modification of Parnassus Heights
Seismic Replacement Building Plans



**There will be a 45-day review period from September 23
to November 7, 1996. Comments may be addressed to:**

Michelle Schaefer
Environmental Coordinator
UCSF Campus Planning
1855 Folsom Street, Suite 566
San Francisco, CA 94143-0286

*Copies of the EIR will be available on September 23, 1996.
Please call 476-3206 to have a copy sent to you, or pick one
up in person at Campus Planning (above), or at UCSF
Community & Governmental Relations, 3333 California
Street, Suite 103, San Francisco.*

UCSF ascribes to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

If at any time you feel you have a need for accommodation, please contact UCSF Community & Governmental Relations at 476-3206 with your suggested accommodation at least 3 working days prior to any scheduled meeting.

Senior Hotline— Call 626-1033

Need help with senior services in San Francisco?

The San Francisco Commission on the Aging maintains a senior information and referral line. The 24-hour phone service may be reached by calling 626-1033.

This free phone service provides current information about social services, housing, transportation, employment, meal sites, senior centers, in-home help, legal assistance and other programs that assist seniors in San Francisco.

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Mike Boss
Botanist

1615 Cortland Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94110

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AT THE BERNAL HEIGHTS GYM

Please note: Call Aubrey Tendell at 695-5007 to confirm time and activities. A permanent schedule was not available at press time.

Adult Aerobics Class: Rhythm in Motion

Tuesdays and Thursdays
6pm to 7pm
Cost: \$7.50-9.00, sliding scale

Meditation Class based on Hatha Yoga

Tuesday evenings following Rhythm in Motion
Cost: \$6.00

Adult Coed Volleyball

Monday evenings
7pm to 8:15pm

Full Court Basketball Games

Wednesday evenings
7pm to 9pm

Swimming With Kids

Tuesdays and Thursdays
Charlie Sava Pool
4pm to 5:30pm

Kickball

Call to confirm league details

Swimming: Fun on the Mats

For children 6 to 10 years of age
Monday and Wednesday evenings

Coed Fitness with Weights

Times to be announced

Runners Club (non-competitive)

Times to be announced

Cooking Class with Tammy Mayfield

Times to be announced

After School Homework Assistance

Monday through Friday

3pm to 5pm

Open Game Room

Two pool tables, cards, music
Daily
3:30pm to 5:30pm

Community Meeting

The gym will be available for community meetings with prior approval from the Recreation and Park Departments. For reservations, call Charlie Holmes at 666-7111.

LIBRARY EVENTS

Bilingual (English/Spanish) Poetry Reading

by Edwin Agustin Lozada
November 12
Adults and teens welcome

Family Night

Wednesday evenings
7:30pm to 9pm

Study Night

Tuesdays
5pm to 8pm

Storytime (preschool)

Thursday mornings
10:30am

Yoga for Kids

Saturday afternoons
4pm to 5pm

Really Cool Chess Club (intergenerational)

Fridays
4pm to 6pm

Magic Cards

Friday evenings
4pm to 6pm

Electronic Magazine-Bits and Pieces

Accessible through the library's home page
World Wide Web address: <http://www.ryzome.com.bits.htm>

BERNAL HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

Mondays

Girl Scouts
4:15pm to 7pm
Narcotics Anonymous
7:30pm to 9pm

Tuesdays

NW Design Review
7:30pm (every other week)

Wednesdays

Girl Scouts
5:45pm to 7pm
Narcotics Anonymous
7:30pm to 9pm

Thursdays

Escola Nova de Samba
6:30pm to 9pm

Fridays

USF Nursing Students
8:30am to 2:30pm
(every other week)

Saturdays

Alcoholics Anonymous
4pm to 6pm
(meetings start at 5pm)

Sundays

Adult Children of Alcoholics
9:45am to 12pm
Girl Scouts
1pm to 4pm

BERNAL BOOKS

Thursday Events

November 7
7:30pm
Popular author and mystery writer Barbara Wilson will read from her new book, *If You Had a Family*. Free and open to everyone.

Friday Events

October 18
7pm to 9pm
Phyllis Burke, author of *Gendershock*, conducts a workshop on gender issues. *Must pre-register* through the Harvey Milk Institute by calling 552-7200.

November 1
7:30pm
Joan Drury, author of the new mystery, *Silent Words*, will read from her work. Free and open to everyone

November 8
7pm to 9pm
It's a PARTY!! Join Bernal Books as we host a book release party for singer and author Kay Turner. Kay will be signing copies of *Between Us: A Legacy of Lesbian Love Letters*.

November 15
7:30 pm
Join us as we welcome Bay Area author and doctor, Misha Cohen, who will read from her new book, *The Chinese Way to Healing* and discuss Chinese and alternative

MUSIC BY

CANDLELIGHT

at the Hungarian Sausage

Factory

419 Cortland Avenue

Tuesdays
Alex Candelaria

Wednesdays
Jules, Gypsy violinist

Thursdays
Randy Craig, jazz pianist and composer

Fridays
Gyorgy Vass plays classical and flamenco guitar

Saturdays
Come dance to Sanchez, a live a Hungarian folk band
Zsolt Szina plays jazz piano

AT THE DELI PUB

Tuesdays
Michael Gold (saxophone), Paul Mindrup (piano) and Lee Alexander (bass) jam for you from 7pm to 10 pm

Sundays
Michael Gold (saxophone), Paul Mindrup (piano) and Lee Alexander (bass) jam for you from 7pm to 10 pm

"Would you like to come up and see my etchings?"

Bernal Artists Reveal Works and Wares At Open Studios

No, it's not a come-on line from the fifties, but rather a serious appeal to collectors, art enthusiasts and curiosity seekers during the first four weekends of October. Celebrating its 21st anniversary, ArtSpan's San Francisco Open Studios will offer the public a peek into the private studios of over 600 artists. Painting, sculpture, photography, drawing, prints, wearable art, video, jewelry and more will be available for perusal and purchase.

Each weekend Open Studios will focus on a different area of the city which will allow over 35,000 expected art lovers to sample a range of milieus. Admission is free. Studios are open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and refreshments are frequently

available. To simplify attendance, Artspace publishes a map to the studios and an Artists Directory.

A listing of artists in the Bernal Heights area is featured below.

Weekend 2 October 12 & 13

The Serta Building

1777 Yosemite Avenue
Polly Bradbury
Mary Dunlap
Fortuna Metalsmiths
Lisa Giannetti
Catalina Gonzalez
Jane B. Grimm
Debra F. Jean Miller
Eric Powell
Michael Russom
Ada Liu Sadler
Brenda Schlegel
Barbara Sebastian

Scott Wynn 1785 Egbert/Newhall
Mikal Cartor 2 Hahn Street/Leland Ave
Duane M. Conliffe 12 Concord St/ Mission
139 Christian Jambou 1069 Carolina St/22nd

Weekend 3 October 19 & 20

JoAnn Santos Rosenendo 687 28th St/Diamond
Alice West 4047 Cesar Chavez/Noe
Jane Austin 413 Duncan St/Sanchez
James Edmiston 369 Duncan St/ Church
Josie Porter 1685 1/2 Church St/ Valley
Suzanne Radcliffe 207 30th St. Church

The Sears Building

3435 Cesar Chavez Street/Valencia
L.J. Altwater
Cheryl Finrock
Todd Parr
Giselle Shepatin
Linda Symonds
Celia T-T
Jerry Wynkoop

James Gleeson 148 Precita Ave/ Chavez
Linda Schriebman 148 Precita Ave/ Chavez
Lori Duckstein 3331 Folsom St/ Ripley
Joan Miró 206 Virginia Ave/Prospect
Judith Luraschi Starbuck 302 Virginia Ave/Winfield
Louis John Gwerder III 254 A Bonview St/Cortland
Pauline Crowther Scott 401 Prentiss St/Jarboe
Toby Judith Klayman 515 Prentiss St/Tompkins
Laura Zindel 390 Crescent Ave/ Andover

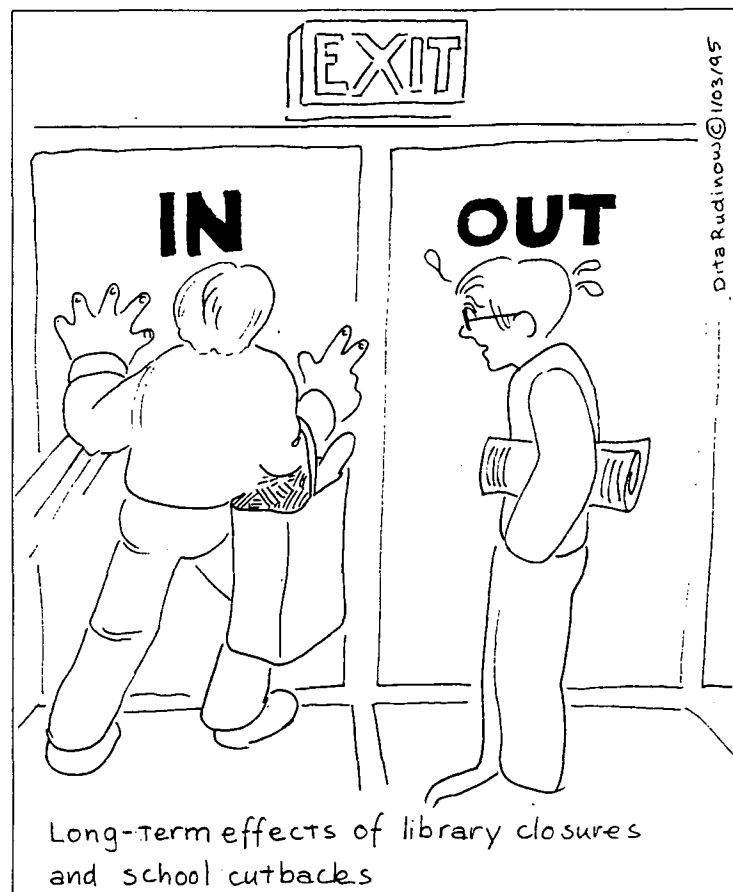
**Need to
get the job done?
Hire Youth!**

**Bernal Heights Youth Job
Referral Line**

Ready for Work Program:

920-2691

What Now?

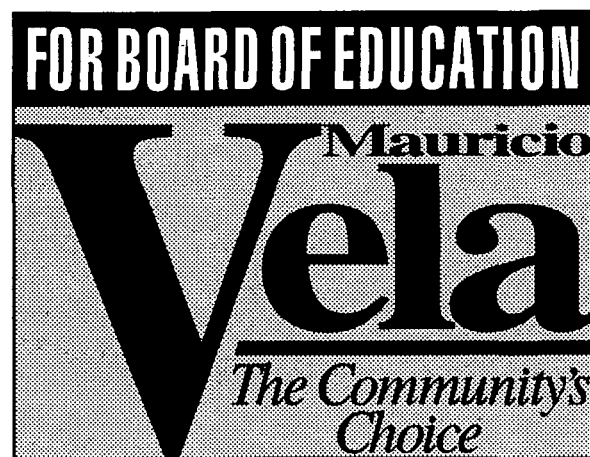


Long-term effects of library closures
and school cutbacks



*Join me in supporting one
of Bernal Heights' own,
Mauricio Vela for School
Board!*

Supervisor Tom Ammiano



**Organizations Endorsing
Mauricio Vela for School Board**

United Educators of San Francisco
San Francisco Democratic Party
Bernal Heights Democratic Club
District 8 Democratic Club
Noe Valley Democratic Club
Sunset Community Democratic Club
National Organization for Women
PAC
Democratic Womens Forum
Bayview/Hunters Point Democratic
Club



Black Leadership Forum
Chinese American Citizens Alliance
Chinese American Democratic Club
Latino Democratic Club
Mexican American Political Association – Margaret Cruz Chapter
Gay Asian Pacific Alliance
Harvey Milk Democratic Club
Lesbians & Gays of African Descent
for Democratic Action
San Francisco League of
Conservation Voters
San Francisco Tenants Network

“As Director of the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center, I have learned that a neighborhood can help create a strong environment for youth development if we adults work together. Our schools should be neighborhood centers which build on a community partnership with our primary and secondary schools. Please support my efforts to turn my ten years of experience in youth services to improving our City's schools!”

**Join Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr. • School Board President Steve Phillips
UESF President Joan Marie Shelley • the San Francisco Democratic Party
the United Educators of San Francisco • the Bernal Heights Democratic Club
and all those listed below, in supporting Mauricio Vela for School Board.**

Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr.	City College Trustee Andrea	Brian Cheu	James Herlihy	Pat Norman
Assemblyman John Burton	Shorter	Chris Collins	Dennis Herrera	Connie O'Connor
Supervisor Kevin Shelley	Sheriff Michael Hennessey	Ronald Colthirst	Sue Hestor	Andy Olshin
Supervisor Tom Ammiano	Public Defender Jeff Brown	Sylvia Courtney	Rick Hills	Ruth Picon
Supervisor Angela Alioto	District Attorney Terence	Emilio Cruz	David Ishida	Irma Ramirez-Tom
Supervisor Sue Bierman	Hallinan	Margaret Cruz	Maurice James	Joel Robinson
Supervisor Leslie Katz	BART Director Willie B.	Greg Day	Tony Kilroy	Eva Royale
Supervisor Suan Leal	Kennedy	Celina Dean	Alicia Lara	Sam Ruiz
Supervisor Mabel Teng		Larry Del Carlo	Louella Lee	Tom Ruiz
Supervisor Michael Yaki	Roberta Achtenberg	Robert J. Donnelly	Dan Macallair	Tony Sacco
Fomer Supervisor Bill	Ron Albers	Ken Dowlin	Eric Mar	Mitch Salazar
Maher	Richard Allman	Reverend Tim Dupre	Victor Marquez	Mario Salgado
President Steve Phillips,	Julio Aponte, Jr.	Glen Eagleson	Frank Martin del Campo	René Saucedo
School Board	Buck Bagot	Luisa Equerro	German Martinez	Sabrina Saunders
Vice President Keith	John Barber	Patrick Fitzgerald	Enola Maxwell	David Serrano Sewell
Jackson, School Board	Gloria Bonilla	Louis Garrett, Sr.	Elaine McBride	Bill Sorro
School Board Member	Al Borvice	Bob Geary	Jose Medina	Rich Sorro
Angie Fa	Tracy Brown	Rotea Gilford	Claire Merced	Yori Wada
School Board Member	Peter Bull	Lori Giorgi	Juan Montemayor	Howard Wallace
Leland Yee	Mary Burns	Roma Guy	Bob Morales	Father Joe Walsh
City College Trustee James	Sara Campos	Jeanna Haney	Jim Morales	Jim West
Mayo	Al Casciato	Helen Helfer	Jeff Mori	Sylvia Yee
			Sandy Mori	Claire Zvansky